

**SHAMOKIN DAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 4, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Shamokin Dam Borough Council was held on Monday, December 4, 2023, in the municipal building located at 42 West 8th Avenue, Shamokin Dam beginning at 7:00 P.M. President Musser presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Sauers, Shawn Bingaman, Mark Benner, Maria Brandt, Karen Roberts, Paige Visneski, and Donald Musser were present.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mayor Joseph McGranaghan, Manager Edward Hovenstine, Solicitor Robert Slivinski, Secretary LaDawn Leitzel, June Stark, and Dr. Michael Dunigan were present.

The meeting was opened with the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Councilman Benner to approve the Council minutes of November 6, 2023, as presented, seconded by Councilman Bingaman, and approved by all.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilwoman Roberts discussed the possibility of a senior action center, example of a place to play cards, somewhere in the Borough and will research.

MAYORS REPORT:

Mayor McGranaghan thanked St. Matthews Lutheran Church for the ceremonial tree lighting service.

Police Report – The Police Chief distributed to Council the November police report via email. The Mayor discussed the equipment currently being used to enforce speed limit within the Borough and reported that other municipalities have catalytic converter thefts.

The Mayor received a phone call from Angie Olson, Borough resident, who wanted to thank Manager Hovenstine and the Borough crew for leaf collection was better this year and wanted to thank the police department for assisting when her father fell.

Mayor McGranaghan discussed the property located at 2943 N Susquehanna Trail, Royal Farms location, regarding the condition of the property. Manager Hovenstine stated that demolition permits were issued. A motion was made by Councilwoman Roberts that if Manager Hovenstine does not receive a detailed understanding of the demolition and construction plan regarding time frame, then Solicitor Slivinski is directed to send correspondence for an official deadline for demolition of the property located at 2943 N Susquehanna Trail, seconded by Councilman Benner, and approved by all.

MANAGERS REPORT:

President Musser explained that the leaf collection was successful with the help of workers supplied by Snyder County probation. Manager Hovenstine stated that there was a total of over 225 community service hours provided and that the Borough would use this service for other projects in the Borough.

Emergency Generators – The Manager noted that the proper sizing and switchgear have been determined and are waiting for the final cost estimated for diesel powered generators. President Musser questioned what the difference is between diesel and natural gas. The Manager answered that the difference is the cost (the difference would be approximately \$100,000.00).

DEP Plant Inspection – Manager Hovenstine explained that the final report from DEP was not received at this time.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

Adopt Ordinance 2023-2, Amending No-Parking Locations within the Borough – A motion was made by Councilman Benner to adopt ordinance 2023-2, amending no-parking locations within the Borough, seconded by Councilwoman Brandt, and approved by all.

The Solicitor sent five letters to businesses that have not paid the Business Privilege Tax for year 2023.

Solicitor Slivinski reviewed a Herndon Borough ordinance regarding outdoor feeding of animals. Any changes that would be considered would be a change to the Quality-of-Life Ordinance. Council authorized the Solicitor to submit an ordinance to Council for consideration.

The Solicitor stated that when the 2024 Budgets are adopted that Resolution 2023-9, would be adopted to fix the real estate tax rates for the fiscal year 2024.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

A Planning Commission meeting will not be held in December.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

General Fund bills in the amount of \$16,155.93, Water and Sewer Fund bills in the amount of \$78,875.59, and PLGIT Recreation Fund in the amount of \$7,066.81 were presented for payment. A motion was made by Vice President Sauers to approve payment of the bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Visneski, and approved by all.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Council adjourned to executive session at 7:45 PM, to discuss personnel issue; reconvened at 8:20 PM.

A motion was made by Councilman Benner to offer Police Chief Bremigen a one-year contract at current salary of \$82,200.00, seconded by Councilman Bingaman, and approved by all.

BUDGET ADOPTION: 2024 Budget Adoption – 2024 Budget –The 2024 General Fund Budget and the Water/Sewer Fund Budget were presented. The 2024 General Fund budget is proposed at \$1,264,907.00. The 2024 Water/Sewer Fund Budget is proposed at \$1,105,894.00 with no increase to the water/sewer rates in 2024.

Resolution 2023-9, Fixing the Real Estate Tax Rates for the Fiscal Year 2024 – A resolution fixing the real estate tax rates for the fiscal year 2024 at 14 mills for general purposes and 3 mills for fire protection.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brandt to adopt the proposed 2024 Budget with changes: increase Manager Hovenstine 2023 salary by 3%, and a one-time merit leadership increase in the amount of \$2,000.00 to Joshua Herb for year 2024, and adopt Resolution 2023-9, fix the real estate tax rate for the fiscal year 2024, seconded by Vice President Sauers, and roll call vote called: Karen-Yes, Shawn-Yes, David-Yes, Donald-Yes, Mark-Abstained, Maria-Yes, Paige-Yes 6-Yes, 0-No, 1-Abstain due to related to Joshua Herb

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

LaDawn D. Leitzel
Borough Secretary